



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

November 20, 2012

HIS OUTSTRETCHED HAND

Mike King



God has been pictured as having an outstretched hand while man is contrasted with Him having a clenched fist. You can tell a lot about a person by their hands. It is by the hands that benevolence is extended, a pat of congratulations or sorrow is felt, or a hand shake that confirms a deal or gives reassurance of friendship. It is with the hand a sickly head is lifted while another lifts a cup of refreshing water to relieve those fever parched lips. The hand stays a child about to run into traffic. It is the hand that slaps, steals, points in anger, and throws the switch for the electric chair to end a life.

We remember, and cherish, the positive acts exhibiting a generous heart. We have a God that is so giving. His Son was known for His outstretched hand. He beckoned Zacchaeus down from the tree to form a personal relationship. The Lord's generous hand raised the dead and calmed a troubled sea. His generosity placed mud on the eyes of the blind or simply touched them to make them like new. What He gave was not of the hand, but the heart. Whether the touch to a crippled leg or an amputated ear, the Master's touch was a touch of generosity and brought healing. It too meant salvation!

The Christian has been admonished to become like his Father, characterized by an outstretched hand of generosity. The thirteenth chapter of I Corinthians is replete with charges to exercise generosity (charity). The child of God has the opportunity to extend his hand to open God's Word and teach an interested soul. The hand is opened when we devotedly give of our earnings to the Lord each Lord's day. Generosity is being shown when we extend a warm hand shake to a visitor at worship. The making of communion bread, knocking a door, directing a song, wiping a soiled window of the meeting place, or changing a diaper in the nursery are all acts of generosity. Carrying a warm meal to someone who has just lost a loved one, a comforting embrace in an effort to express sorrow or love, adjusting the microphone volume, or simply patting a passing child on the head...it all means generosity.

Jesus used an illustration of putting a light under a basket to demonstrate this principle. He said, "*With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you*" (Mk. 4:24). May we always be known for an outstretched and inviting hand and never a closed or clenched fist. This is a great time to be thankful and pass it on to another!

THANKSGIVING TRADITION

Thanksgiving has long been an American tradition. We trace its history back to 1621 when governor William Bradford established a day of thanksgiving among the early settlers of the new world. In the early days of our great nation George Washington proclaimed a day of thanksgiving. In his proclamation, Washington reminded the citizens of the Divine care and protection they had enjoyed before and during the Revolutionary War.

Later, during the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln made a similar proclamation that read in part:

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.

Our forefathers enjoyed Thanksgiving as a time to re-count God's bountiful blessings. It was a time for families to be together. It was a time to rejoice and enjoy the simple things of life.

With the increase of affluence, many have become so self-sufficient that they have lost the grace of gratitude. Thanksgiving Day, for some, has degenerated into a day of feasting and football. It is merely an excuse to overindulge. Like ancient Israel, some take life's blessings for granted and forget to acknowledge the blessed Giver. God warned Israel about growing wealthy and forgetting that it was God "*that giveth thee power to get wealth*" (see Deut. 8:11-20).

May we enjoy Thanksgiving Day with our loved ones. Let us pause to acknowledge our great God and give thanks for his blessings. Furthermore, may we remember to be thankful every day. In the words of Inspiration: "*Giving thanks always for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father*". (Eph. 5:20).

--Dan Flournoy via ~ www.christian-family.net

Name That Place

1. The place Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were cast when they would not worship an image. _____.
2. The place Noah's ark came to rest. _____
3. The place where Aaron died. _____
4. In what place did dogs eat the flesh of Jezebel?

5. The place disciples were first called Christians.

6. The place Jesus talked with a Samaritan woman about living water. _____

*Genesis 8:3-4; Numbers 33:39; 2 Kings 9:36; Daniel 3:10-20; John 4:6-7; Acts 11:26

~ www.housetohouse.com

INFORMER MAILING UPDATE

From time to time we try to update our Informer mailing list. If you would like to keep receiving the Informer by mail please clip your address from the front of the bulletin and mail it to us at: P.O. 148 New Albany, MS 38652. You may also contact us at 662-534-4649 or by email at: nacoc15s@gmail.com. We will be happy to keep you on our mailing list. If you are a member here at New Albany you will continue to receive your bulletin as usual. If you would prefer to receive the bulletin by email please let us know.





PRAYER LIST

Nicki Weaver has been diagnosed with shingles.

Eleta Grimmert, is in room 6628 of the Tupelo hospital with pneumonia. No visits at this time, please.

Melissa Reed, had her second eye surgery this past week and is at home recovering.

Crystal Bickerstaff, daughter of *J. L. Eaton* had tests run Mon. and if all goes well will have kidney surgery Dec. 4th.

Diane Sloan, mother of *Brad Sloan* begins her chemo treatments this week. Please pray for her.

Whitney House, granddaughter of *Gary & Linda Turner* had surgery on her leg this past week as a result of an auto accident a few weeks ago.

Continual Prayer

Audrey Clement, Suzette Renix, Grace Anderson, Anna Claire Ellis, Diane Sloan, Yolanda Stubblefield, Randall Haney, Eleta Grimmert, Taterrin Wilson, Rosie Wilson, Mayala Wood, Rex Lyon, Tauso Branch, Perrin Drummond, Mary Alice Holloway, Prebble Foster, Jack Dunlap, John Tierney, Tony Cross, Norman Brown, Al Pless, Hugh Collins, Shane Crotts, Terry & Betty Young

Shut-Ins

Jean Drummond, Billy Joe Garner, Belle Cross

Nursing Home/Assisted Living: Mattie Golden, Altha Rogers, Amy Vest, Laura Mae Harris

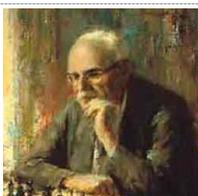
Military List:

David & Barry Wilhite, Jimmie Stutts, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Michelle Hamm, Raegan Cole, Derek Bradley, Jesse Stroud



"I BELIEVE"

....that silent gratitude isn't much use to anyone.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



November 23..... Betty Young
November 25..... Cooper Pounders
November 28..... Jerry Grimmert
November 29..... Sissy Bullock

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

November 25..... Jason & Brandi McCullough



REJOICE!

We rejoice that *Thomas Wall* was baptized into Christ Sunday, Nov. 18th, by his dad. *Thomas* is the son of *Randy* and *Christy Wall*. We congratulate *Thomas* on his decision to become a Christian and pray for him as he begins his new life in Christ.

THANK YOU NOTES

Words cannot express how much I appreciate all the calls, food, cards, and most of all your prayers. I have been overwhelmed by your kindness and thoughtfulness shown to me and my family. Continue to remember us in your prayers. **Melissa Reed & family**

Thank you for your prayers, love, understanding and patience. I love each and everyone of you. I am so grateful to be a part of such a loving family. Again, Thank you. **Gloria Jones**

LOOKING AHEAD

- Men's Breakfast and Planning session is scheduled for Sat., Dec. 1st, at 7:00am. All men are encouraged to attend. There is a signup sheet on the table in the foyer.
- Ladies' Christmas Brunch is scheduled for Sat., Dec. 1st, at 10:00am., at the home of *Novene Robertson*. You are asked to bring a brunch dish and a wrapped Christmas ornament.
- Teen Shopping trip is planned for Sat., Dec. 1st.



OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....	120
Sunday A.M.....	150
Sunday P.M.....	114
Wednesday.....	122
Contribution.....	\$ 3,690.00
Budget.....	\$ 3,567.55

TO SERVE

Scripture.....	Matt Jennings
A.M. Prayer.....	Greg Clayton
Closing Prayer.....	Harold Crowe
P.M. Prayer.....	Perry Jones
Closing.....	Jason Jennings
Wed 11/28.....	Daniel Drummond
Wed. 11/28.....	Mark Jennings
Usher & Lock.....	Roger Clayton
Greeter.....	B & N Frohn



PANTRY ITEM

Soup/Crackers

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....	9:30
Morning Worship	10:30
Evening Worship.....	6:00
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00

ELDERS

Richard Jennings	534-6671
Troy Robertson	534-3491

DEACONS

Bill Botts.....	316-2422
Greg Clayton.....	252-9762
Roger Clayton.....	538-8195
Harold Russell	534-4648
Randy Wall	316-9255
Lonnie Weaver.....	801-8448

MINISTER

Mike King.....	507-0625
Home.....	534-6872
Office	534-4649

THANKSGIVING

- T** is for the **tender** care He gives us each day.
- H** is for the **helping** hands that guide us on our way.
- A** is for **adoring** eyes that watch over us at night.
- N** is for His **never-ending** light.
- K** is for **kindness** He shows for you and me.
- S** is for His **suffering** on the tree.
- G** is for His saving **grace**.
- I** is for the **insurance** of a home with Him in heaven.
- V** is for His **victory** over death.
- I** is for His **impartiality**.
- N** is for His gentle **nature**.
- G** is for the **greatest gift** of all - Jesus Christ.



THE INFORMER

November 20, 2012

Volume 44

THE INFORMER (USPS 5581-500)
Church of Christ
511 Hwy. 15 South, P.O. Box 148
New Albany, Mississippi 38652
(662)534-4649

Periodical
Postage Paid
New Albany, MS

POSTMASTER: Send address changes
(Form 3579) to: The Informer, P.O. Box
148, New Albany, MS 38652